COCHIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Wednesday, *the* *10th of October 1928.* / *25th of Kanni 1104.*

The House met at Half past Eleven of the Clock with the Diwan—President in the Chair. Messrs. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar, Rao Bahadur John Kuriyan, C. V. Kuriyan, K. T. Mathew and Ouseph P. Kundukulam were absent.

Swearing in of new Members.

(The Diwan—President, M. R. Ry., Rao Bahadur T. S. Narayana Ayyar Avl., and Messrs. K. Govinda Menon and P. Nilakanta Menon took and subscribed the oath of allegiance.)

President's opening remarks.

President.—Hon'ble Members, it gives me great pleasure to offer to one and all of you a hearty greeting on the occasion of the first sitting of the first session of the new year 1104. In the usual course of things, we should have commenced the session somewhere about the month of Vrischigam; but, in this year, we had to meet somewhat early in accordance with the understanding arrived at during the last Budget Session. This sitting will not be regarded as, in any way unconnected with the Legislative Session of the year and, instead of the usual three meetings, we will have four meetings, the special sitting we are now holding accounting for the additional one. I do not now propose to say anything about the nature and extent of the work that is before us and it is my intention to make a brief statement thereon after the question hour is over.

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Before I take up the next item, the interpellations, I would like to say a word about the two meetings of this newly constituted Second Council—I refer to the preliminary meeting held in the month of Mithunam 1103 and the Budget Session in Karkadagam 1103 which comprised a sitting of eleven days. I had to be absent from these meetings on account of my illness; but nevertheless I was kept in close touch with the proceedings of the Council from day to day. The preliminary meeting was more or less a formal affair, the principal part of the business being the swearing in of the Members of the Council. As regards the Budget Session, I was immensely gratified to learn that the proceedings of the session went off in an eminently satisfactory manner, thanks to the dignified, tactful and sympathetic conduct of the President and the hearty co-operation and support of the Hon'ble Members of this House.

I now proceed to the next item, 'Questions and Answers.'

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Before we enter into the item, Questions and Answers, I, on behalf of the Party, would like to express our great gladness to you that you are restored and that you are come again amidst us as before.

President.—I wish to thank you most heartily for the kind sentiment expressed with regard to my restoration of health. No doubt, I was laid up for a pretty long time, but, by the grace of Providence I was soon restored to health, and I am now here to my duty.

Questions and Answers.

Number of Aided Schools in the State.

1. **Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.**—Will the Government be pleased to state (a) the total number of Aided Schools in the State;

(b) a caste-war statement of management?

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